



Docket No.: 101896-0474
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Michael Mahoney et al.

Application No.: 10/579,146

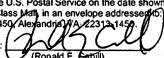
Confirmation No. 8927

Filed: May 12, 2006

Art Unit: 3733

For: **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR SPINAL
SURGERY**

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:
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Dated: August 9, 2006 Signature: 
(Ronald E. Gerilli)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the U.S. filing date (37 CFR 1.97(b)(1)).

Application No.: 10/579,146

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In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

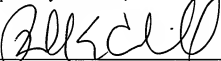
In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56 (b).

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 141449, under Order No. 101896-0474.

Dated: August 9, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



By
Ronald E. Cahill
Registration No.: 38,403
NUTTER MCCLENNEN & FISH LLP
World Trade Center West
155 Seaport Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2604
(617) 439-2782
(617) 310-9782 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete If Known

Application Number	10/579,146
Filing Date	May 12, 2006
First Named Inventor	Michael Mahoney
Art Unit	3733
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	101896-0474

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.†	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	†
		Country Code* Number* Kind Code* (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference coincide, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. * Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). * See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.14. * Enter Office that issued the application by the two-letter code (see Appendix I, Table 1). * For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the WIPO of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. * Kind of document symbols as indicated in the document under the symbol of MPEP 2T.16 if possible. * Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		International Search Report, from corresponding PCT/US05/04136, mailed July 25, 2005.	

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Examiner Signature	/Larry Waggle, Jr/	Date Considered	09/03/2009
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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /LEW/



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